ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Gerund – Infinitive (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 1

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Explanations

1. I felt someone _____ me on the shoulder but when I turned round, there was no-one there.
✓ **A) tapping**
After verbs of perception like **feel**, **see** and **hear**, we use object + **-ing** form: **felt someone tapping me**. The **-ing** form shows the action in progress. Not **to tap**, because these verbs are not followed by **to** + infinitive in the active.

2. Look at that old man _____ to cross the road.
✓ **A) trying**
After **look at** + person, we use the **-ing** form for an action in progress: **that old man trying to cross the road**. Not **tries**, because the sentence already has a main verb (**look**).

3. I can feel something _____ up my leg.
✓ **A) crawling**
After **can feel** + object, we use the **-ing** form for an action happening now: **something crawling up my leg**. **Crawled** and **crawls** are not possible after the object of **feel**.

4. I won't waste time _____ to his letter.
✓ **C) replying**
The pattern is **waste time** + **-ing** form: **waste time replying**. Not **to reply**, because **waste time** is not followed by **to** + infinitive.

5. I'd rather _____ in tonight.
✓ **B) stay**
Would rather (**'d rather**) is followed by the bare infinitive (without **to**): **I'd rather stay in**. Not **stayed**: the past form is used only when there is a different subject, e.g. **I'd rather you stayed**.

6. It's high time we _____.
✓ **C) went**
It's high time + subject is followed by the past simple, even though the meaning is present: **It's high time we went**. Not **go**: we can say **It's high time to go**, but not with a subject (**we**).

7. There is no point in _____ with her.
✓ **B) arguing**
There is no point in ends with the preposition **in**, and a verb after a preposition takes the **-ing** form: **no point in arguing**.

8. I think we'd better _____.
✓ **D) go**
Had better (**'d better**) is followed by the bare infinitive (without **to**): **we'd better go**. Not **to go**, a common mistake.

9. Would you care _____ a look at my latest report?
✓ **B) to have**
Would you care (a polite offer or request) is followed by **to** + infinitive: **Would you care to have a look?** Not **having**: **care for** takes a noun or **-ing**, but **care** alone takes **to**.

10. She seems _____ better today.
✓ **A) to be feeling**
Seem is followed by **to** + infinitive. The continuous infinitive **to be feeling** is used for a temporary state now (**today**): **She seems to be feeling better**.

11. I daren't _____ out after dark.
✓ **B) go**
Daren't is used as a modal verb here, so it is followed by the bare infinitive: **I daren't go out**. Not **to go**, because modal **dare** does not take **to**.

12. Passengers are forbidden _____ to the driver.
✓ **A) to talk**
Forbid someone to do something becomes passive **be forbidden to do**: **Passengers are forbidden to talk to the driver**. Not **talking**: the **-ing** form needs **from** (**forbidden from talking**).

13. A: Won't you stay? There is a good Japanese film on TV.

B: No thanks, I hate _____ Japanese films.
✓ **C) watching**
Hate is followed by the **-ing** form (or **to** + infinitive) for likes and dislikes: **I hate watching Japanese films**. Not **to watching**, because **to** here is not a preposition.

14. She is afraid of the dentist, so she always puts off _____ till the last possible moment.
✓ **B) going**
Put off (= delay) is followed by the **-ing** form: **puts off going**. Not **to go**, because phrasal verbs like **put off** are not followed by **to** + infinitive.

15. I simply couldn't resist _____ you to tell you the good news!
✓ **A) phoning**
Resist is followed by the **-ing** form: **couldn't resist phoning you**. Not **to phone**, because **resist** never takes **to** + infinitive.

16. They were expected _____ back by eleven.
✓ **D) to be**
Be expected is followed by **to** + infinitive: **They were expected to be back by eleven**. Not **being**, because **expect** does not take the **-ing** form.

17. We'll get Robert _____ it.
✓ **C) to deliver**
Get someone to do something means persuade or arrange for someone to do it: **We'll get Robert to deliver it**. Not **deliver**: the bare infinitive is used with **have** (**have Robert deliver it**), not with **get**.

18. Let's not waste time _____ about this.
✓ **B) arguing**
The pattern is **waste time** + **-ing** form: **Let's not waste time arguing**. Not **having argued**, because the perfect form shows an earlier action, which does not fit here.

19. I went to the airport _____ to meet her, but she didn't arrive.
✓ **B) expecting**
Expecting to meet her is a participle clause that gives the reason for going (= because I expected to meet her). Not **to expect**, which would wrongly mean the purpose of the trip was to expect something.

20. _____ that I would be late for school, I took a taxi instead of a bus.
✓ **A) Thinking**
A present participle clause can give the reason for an action: **Thinking that I would be late** = Because I thought I would be late. Not **To think**, which would express purpose, not reason.

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